1	2	3
19.	Punjab	0.49
20.	Rajasthan	0.63
21.	Sikkim	NA
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.47
23.	Tripura	0.21
24.	Uttar Pradesh	0.70
25.	West Bengal	0.67
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0.39
27.	Chandigarh	0.93
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.95
29.	Daman & Diu	0.47
30.	Delhi	0.71
31.	Lakshadweep	NA
32.	Pondicherry	0.50
33.	Jharkhand	0.95
34.	Chattisgarh	1.47
35.	Uttaranchal	0.53
	All India	0.66

N.A.— Not available

ILO Convention

1715. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether India attended the plenary session of the ILO held in Geneva in the month of June, 2002;

(b) if so, whether Government have made their stand clear and emphasized that Child labour is closely linked to poverty and illiteracy which are being addressed with urgency;

(c) if so, what are the steps Government have taken to eliminate child labour;

(d) the decisions taken in the ILO convention in this regard; and

(e) to what extent Government have assured that child labour would be eliminated in India within a stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) India strongly endorsed the need to eliminate unconditionally the worst forms of child labour. It was mentioned that, the Government's strategy of attempting to eliminate this problem is through a sequential process begining with the worst formas and moving progressively towards hazardous & less hazardous forms of child labour. It was also emphasized that, the problem of child labour is closely interlinked with poverty and illiteracy and the Government is addressing both these issues with urgency.

The Government of India has been implementing two schemes for the benefit of children withdrawn from work namely the Scheme of National Child Lbaour Projects (NCLPs) and the Scheme of Grants-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations. At present 100 NCLPs are under implementation in 13 child labour endemic states for the coverage of 2.11 lakh working children. In the Ninth Plan period the total allocation of funds for child labour Schemes was Rs. 249.60 crore. A proposal for an enhanced allocation for the Tenth Plan has been made.

Government is committed to the goal of eradication of child labour in all its forms. Considering the nature and magnitude of the problem, a gradual, sequential approach has been adopted to withdraw and rehabilitate child labour beginning with children working in hazardous occupations.

Retrenchment of workers

1716. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Retrenchment at alarming levels" as reported in the Pioneer dated the 8th June, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the survey conducted by the Labour Bureau has revealed that retrenchment of workers during the last few years have shown an upward trends in comparison to previous years;